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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **MORPC'S MONTHLONG RIVERFEST ON TOUR! FREE FAMILY FUN**

(Columbus – May 20, 2009) - Join the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) as it celebrates central Ohio's natural resources. MORPC has scheduled free activities throughout the entire month of June as part of *Riverfest On Tour!* Free activities will include canoe, kayak and pontoon boat rides, kite flying over the Dawes Arboretum wetlands, fishing with Metro Parks and more. "Each activity is designed to get people acquainted with their natural resources. We want to show them that a pristine environment is fun, important and worth their effort to protect," stated Leslie Strader, Outreach Specialist for MORPC.

The Tour! travels to various locations throughout central Ohio. Choose a fun-filled family activity near you or better yet, visit them all. Visit [www.riverfestcolumbus.org](http://www.riverfestcolumbus.org) for a map of the various locations and a detailed listing of the events.

To kick-off the month long celebration of water, MORPC will host a full evening of excitement at COSI Family Friday Night and Waterfire on Friday, May 29, 2009 from 5-10:30 p.m. Some other family fun activities include:

-more-

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*Working to Build a Better Region*

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[www.morpc.org](http://www.morpc.org)**

**MAY  
29**

**Kick-off Celebration**

5:00-10:30 PM

*COSI and Genoa Park*

[www.riverfestcolumbus.org](http://www.riverfestcolumbus.org)

Free popcorn, Extreme Screen movie, prizes, activities and more at Family Friday Night at COSI (\$7 admission, 5:00-9:00 PM). Later in the evening, watch flames dance on the Scioto River at WaterFire (free admission, 7:00-10:30 PM).

**JUNE  
7**

**Passport to Fishing**

1:00-3:00 PM

*Three Creeks Metro Park*

[www.metroparks.net](http://www.metroparks.net)

Hook, line and sinker- Learn it all fishing and receive a free pole to take home. Registration required call 614.409.9914

**JUNE  
12**

**Reel Paddling Film**

Starting at dark

*Thompson Park, Upper Arlington*

[www.theoutdoorsource.com](http://www.theoutdoorsource.com)

An outdoor movie is the perfect way to spend a summer evening. For info call Outdoor Source at 614.457.3620

**JUNE  
13**

**80 Kites Flyin' High**

10:00AM-4:00 PM

*Dawes Arboretum*

[www.dawesarb.org](http://www.dawesarb.org)

Grab a kite from home and fly it over one of Ohio's best locations– the Dawes wetland! Continue the fun collecting critters from the wetland. For info call at 740.323.2355

**JUNE  
20**

**Float in a Boat**

10:00AM-2:00 PM

*Hoover Reservoir, Area B*

(also to be held on 6/13)

Kayaks, canoes & pontoon boats will be available free for you to enjoy. For info call Chris at 614.645.1721

**JUNE  
27**

**Waste Water Plant Tour**

9:00 AM

*City of Columbus Jackson Pike Plant*

An essential life lesson– learn where water goes after it has swirled down the drain. Registration required 614.645.5970

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Designated as central Ohio's metropolitan planning agency, MORPC is a voluntary association of 46 local governments. The Center for Energy & Environment at MORPC, host of Riverfest *On Tour!*, serves as a community resource in the region by offering a variety of services including: daily air quality forecasts, trail coordination, educational presentations, watershed planning, home weatherization, government carbon footprint analysis and more.